

Homage to a Patriot

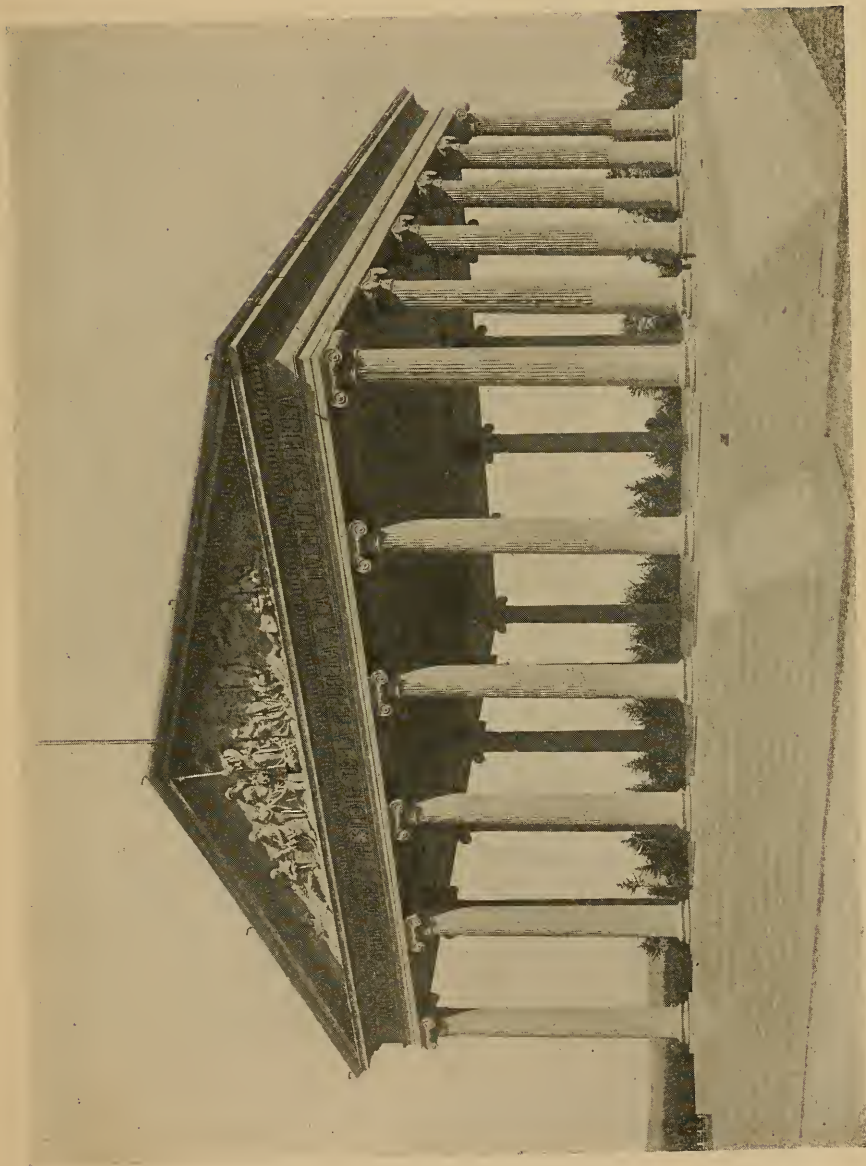


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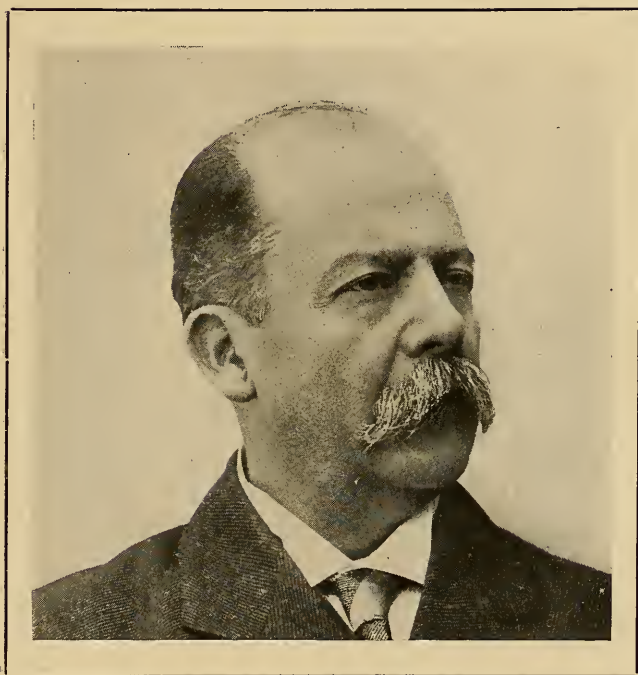


Minerva Temple.



VISTA GENERAL DEL PARQUE ESTRADA CABRERA, GUATEMALA

Homage to a Patriot



*HIS EXCELLENCY MANUEL ESTRADA CABRERA,
Constitutional President of the Republic of Guatemala.*

1915

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

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Fiscal Bridge.

By Transfer
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Homage to a Patriot.

The Republic of Guatemala, the largest of the Republics comprising the Central American isthmus, is showing proof of undeniable culture and a lofty example of good judgment, in electing the person who shall direct the destiny of the country during the coming presidential period.

The people, with unlimited enthusiasm, have unanimously designated as their candidate, Licenciado Don Manuel Estrada Cabrera, the present incumbent of the office of President of the Republic. It could not be otherwise in view of his great patriotic labor, his supreme intelligence, combined with his political sagacity, and his great force of character, which has resulted in the continued maintenance of peace, all of which must be convincing to all Guatemalans, that his re-election for the term ending in 1923 is absolutely necessary. We review his grand work:

Peace.

Coincident with the death of General Reina Barrios, Lic. Estrada Cabrera became President in accordance with the mandate of the law. The opposition attempted to take advantage of the situation, provoked by those abnormal circumstances in which the country found itself, and began to put into play its machiavelian practices to pull down our institutions, and our glorious conquest of 1871. It was as if a party of fanatics, like hungry wolves, had surrounded the National Palace, which at the moment contained the body of the unfortunate General Reina Barrios, and stained the very doors of the Palace and Commandance



Practical School for Young Ladies.

of Arms with the blood of those patriots who defended the government on that eventful night.

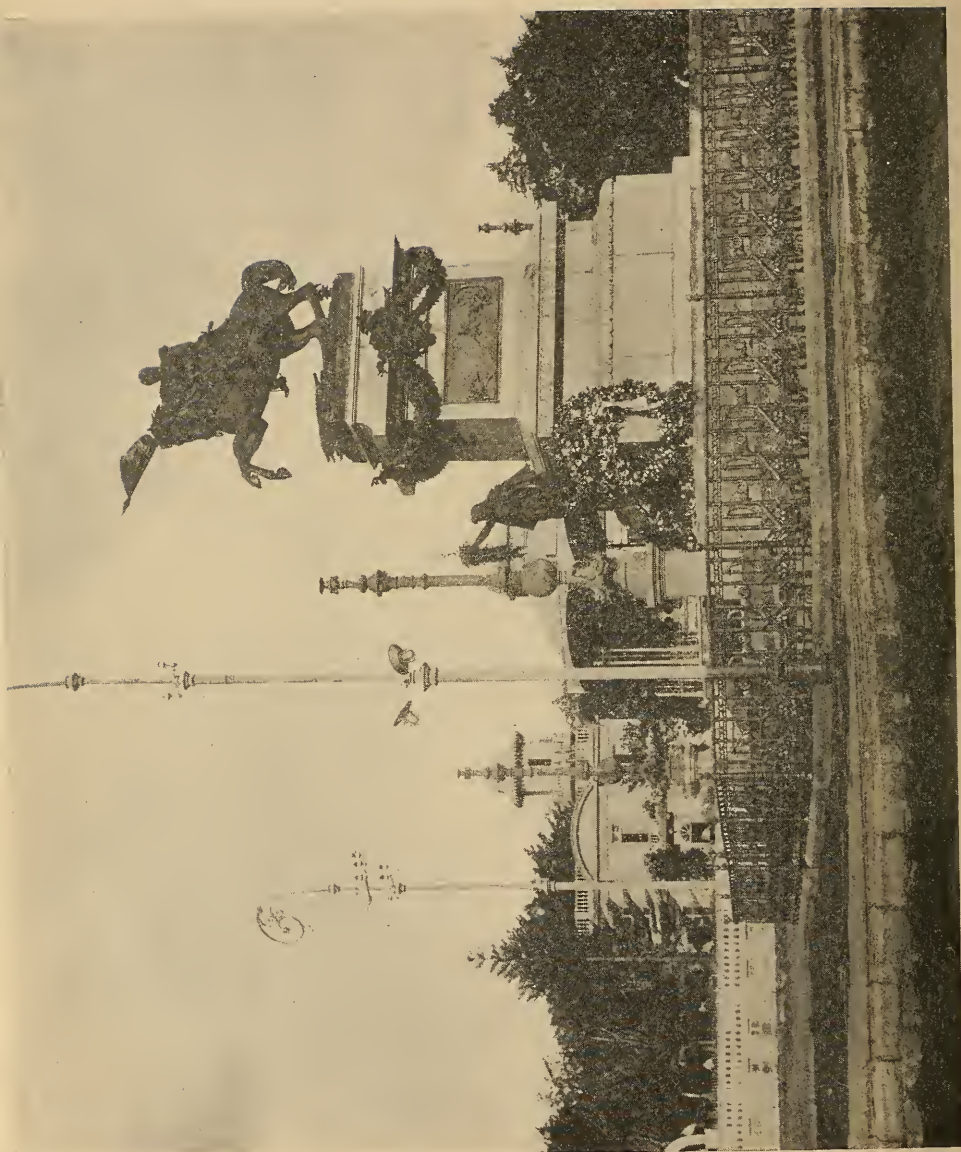
The calmness and bravery of Estrada Cabrera in those difficult moments, as well as the fact that the army remained loyal, subdued the revolt and saved the country from the anarchy into which it was about to be plunged.

Later on, the war of 1906, brought on by a few discontents, assisted by other Central American governments, forced the government of Guatemala to take to arms to defend its rights, and this was done with such patriotic and moral superiority, that within a short time the revolt was in shameful confusion, and the country cleared of a hostile element detrimental to its development and progress.

From that time peace was cemented to solid base. A correct attitude towards all nations of the earth, the absolute respect of strangers and nationals, and the proverbial compliance with law which Estrada Cabrera observes and insists on others observing, has brought the country to the state of development in which we find it.

Public Instruction.

The great glory for having done more for public education than any other government of Spanish America, belongs to Estrada Cabrera. In Guatemala there is not a town, or village, be it ever so small, which has not received a public school, sustained by the Nation, and we thus find thousands of schools throughout the Republic. As a logical consequence of this vast system of education, we find fewer illiterates among the lower class and a growing proportion of the native Indian who are ostensibly adopting modern civilization and preparing themselves for a brighter future. Furthermore, during the past five



Statue of Justo Rufino Barrios.



Statue of General García Granados.

years the educational system has been put on practical lines.

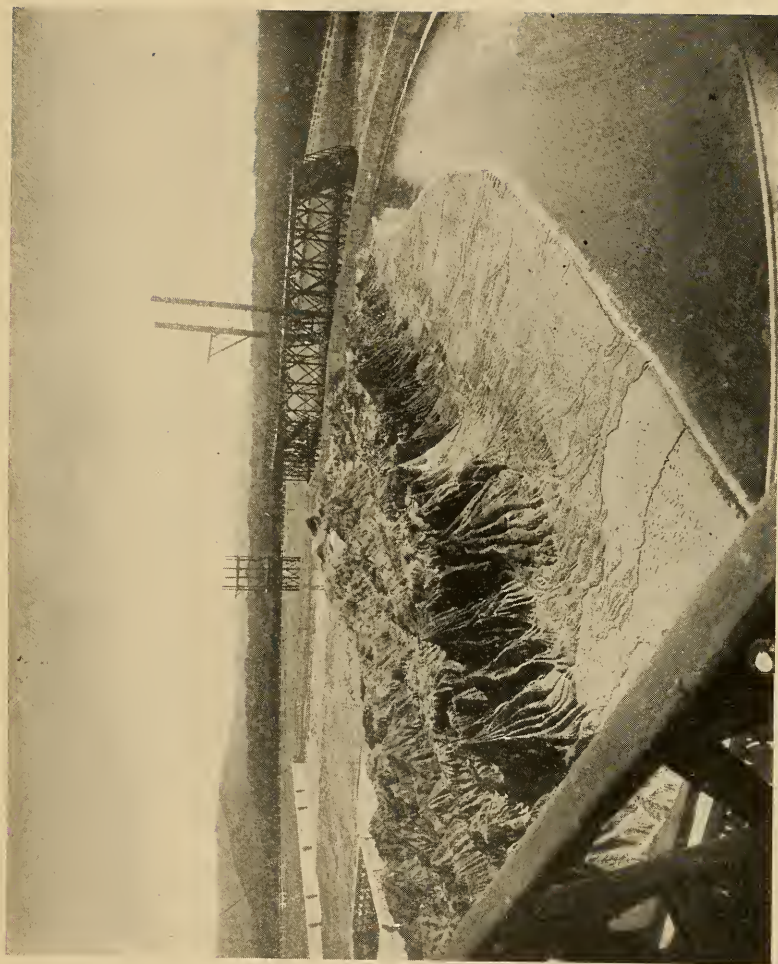
In Guatemala to-day especial preference is given to practical education in each of the large schools established in each Department of the Republic, so that when the youth leaves the school, his head is not filled with a lot of scientific knowledge which is of no use to him, but rather he is provided with a practical education, making him a useful individual to his country and society. Notwithstanding the government pays special attention to the Colleges of Medicine, Surgery, Law, Pharmacy, Dentistry and Engineering, it has also given the country a first-class Academy for Military Instruction.

Agriculture.

It is well known that coffee constitutes our principal product, and to its cultivation and export the majority of our agriculturists are devoted, because the Guatemalan coffee is famous throughout the markets of the United States and Europe for its superior quality.

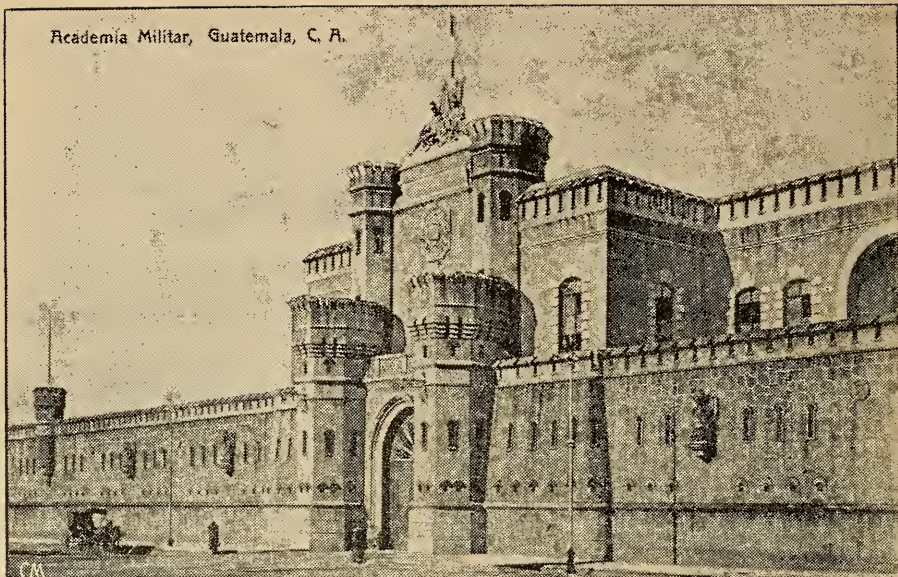
The government recognizes, however, that there should be a diversity of products in order to safeguard the economic position of the country, and to this end has offered great concessions to those who dedicate themselves to the cultivation of wheat, hemp, tobacco, rubber, etc., and it has already proven by those who have engaged in this cultivation on a small scale that very attractive profits can be had, and thereby add new riches to the country and additional revenues to the national funds. A marked development is already noticed along these lines, and it is to be hoped that the much looked for result will be obtained.

On account of the disturbed conditions brought on by the European war, the President of the Republic, in order to prevent a crisis from the scarcity of the necessities of life within Guatemala, which would



Relief Map of the Republic.

Academia Militar, Guatemala, C. A.



Coffee Plantation.

seriously affect the poor of the country, has ordered that lands be divided and rented to all who care to dedicate themselves to the cultivation of corn and other cereals. Many families have thus been added and are thereby working and self-sustaining, instead of being victims of want. Agriculture continues its natural growth, and if the new products continue to expand as have coffee and sugar cane, then it is safe to assume that our exports must soon exceed our imports, and in consequence bring about a higher value to our currency and a definite solution of our economic condition.

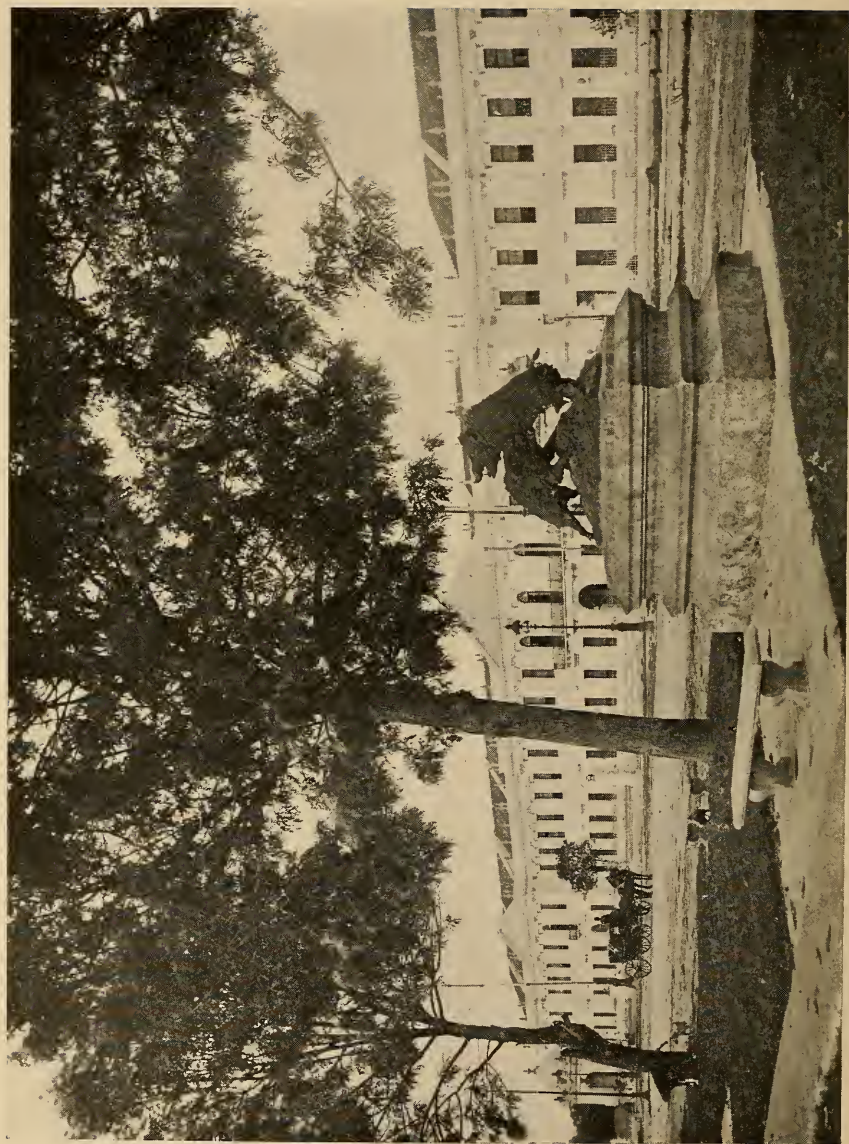
Commerce and Industry.

With the opening of the Interoceanic route by means of the railroad to Puerto Barrios, which was accomplished by the indefatigable efforts of Estrada Cabrera, the commerce of Guatemala has grown prodigiously, and the products of the old world as well as the United States reach us with a great reduction in freight and time, and lends greater facilities to those who visit our country. Many of our industries remain unknown to the outside world because Guatemala is considered as an agricultural country, yet these industries continue to grow. There are manufacturers of cloths of good quality; the shoe industry has grown to noticeable proportions and competes successfully with foreign made product. There are others of lesser importance which demonstrate the progress along this line.

Public Charity.

The poor and unfortunate have found in Estrada Cabrera a generous friend, and the sick and needy are promptly succored. The Asylum "Estrada Cabrera" for Convalescents, an establishment which enjoys every modern convenience, in which over 2000 can be cared for, is a model institution.

The Maternity Hospital "Joaquina" and the General



Estrada Cabrera Asylum.

Hospital are noted for their medical staffs. Many Orphans' Asylums, and in each Department a Hospital, show the well organized charities of the Government.

Reforms and Projects.

Many are the reforms and projects favorable to Guatemalans which are contemplated during the coming administration.

The Electric Street Railway system for the Capital, reaching to the suburbs of Tivoli and Guard Viejo and adjoining precincts; the "Los Altos Railroad," now in course of construction, will connect Guatemala City with Quezaltenango, the most important city in the west. The Oriental Railroad, passing through the Departments of Chiquimula and Santa Rosa, will give new life to that section of the Republic; and the railroad from Zacapa to Santa Anna (Salvador), which is being constructed, brings us nearer to our brothers of the neighboring Republic to the South. The bringing of the water from Teocinte and Las Minas to the Capital to meet the needs of the inhabitants, is another great project, and there are many others which reflect the progressive and untiring spirit of the present President and the co-operation of his party.

Guatemalan Youth.

The greatest eulogy which can be paid Estrada Cabrera is: "He loves the youth," in every sense of the word. Who wishes to see him in the full ecstasy of enjoyment will see him surrounded by the young people, for there he is in his element, because he admires the simplicity, innocence and frank enjoyment of youth.

To prove this we have but to refer to his acts during his administration. The re-opening of all establishments of public instruction, which were closed by his



Group of Guatemalan Young Ladies.

predecessors; the creation of renowned holidays for the scholars with their attendant exercises and games, as well as athletic and military contests, are his work. At these functions he is assisted by bankers, business men, professional men, newspaper men, officers of the army and over 4,000 children of both sexes, who meet at the Temple of Minerva, where homage is paid the God of Learning. This feast is considered a National celebration, and the people have come to appreciate its object to such an extent that there is no native or foreigner who does not take some part, directly or indirectly.

It can be truthfully said that these celebrations represent the concentrated love of the President for the youth of the country, exemplifying the well-known saying of the Master: "Suffer little children to come unto me."

Conclusion.

The foregoing statements concerning Lic. Don Manuel Estrada Cabrera as President of Guatemala, and our candidate for re-election to that high office, have induced us to formulate the following questions:

First. Who has greater merit than he to govern the country with surety and decide the great problems which will confront us for the well being of the Republic?

Second. From whom may we expect greater energy than he has demonstrated for the past sixteen years in preserving the sacred interest of the country without stain or prejudice?

Let us place our hands over our hearts and answer these questions. Our consciences, if we are just, and our gratitude, if we have any, will carry us to the ballot boxes of our beloved country and there without vacillating, we will deposit our vote, solemnly and



Minerva Feast in Minerva Street.

frankly, in favor of his candidacy, promising with all the fervor of our souls to sustain in his place that illustrious public man who is the object of these lines—Manuel Estrada Cabrera. The future of Guatemala demands this.

Eduardo Lainfiesta.

Daniel Aguilar S.

F. Márquez h.

J. Antonio Lanuza.

Manuel Azurdia V.

Emilio Dubois.

G. Avendaño.

Silvano Chávez.

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